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COMMENT OF THE DAY

SOVIET-SUPPORT FOR HUNGARY

It now appears that Mr Khrushchev has decided to give full Soviet support in the future for the Hungarian leadership of Mr Janos Kadar and Mr Ferenc Muenich. Immediately on Mr Khrushchev's return to Moscow he attacked the former Hungarian Communist leader, Mr Matyas Rakosi, as being to blame for the 1956 uprising and it seems that it will be impossible for him to make a comeback without Russian sponsorship. There is little effective alternative in the country at present to the leadership of Mr Kadar, who heads the party, and Mr Muenich, the Prime Minister.

Undercurrent
They are, nevertheless, unable to prevent an undercurrent of opposition showing itself, judging from the reports of heckling of Mr Khrushchev at rare occurrences in a Communist country — and from the absenteeism at mass meetings.

It is believed that the Soviet leader advised Mr Kadar to avoid any repressive measures, in a bid to consolidate popular support. For this reason it is unlikely that the Hungarian Government will for the present, bring to trial Mr Imre Nagy, Premier during the uprising, whom the Russians seized as he left the Yugoslav Embassy in November, 1956.

Relations Strained
Hungarian-American relations have been strained since the uprising: the American Legation still shelters the Hungarian Roman Catholic primate, Cardinal Josef Mindszenty. At the same time, Mr Khrushchev in plain speaking on several occasions, told his Hungarian listeners they must be better Communists to prevent the possibility of another "counter-revolution." As if on the defensive, he reportedly in his speeches justified the Soviet Union's intervention to crush the spontaneous uprising and there is no doubt that Russian forces would intervene again, with or without a Hungarian request.

Warning
The joint communiqué at the end of the visit, meanwhile, warned intellectuals—the spearhead of the uprising—that a "resolute struggle" would be waged against revisionism, Revisionism, or the revising of Marxist-Leninist teaching in a pro-Western bourgeois direction has been held to be the main offence of many intellectuals.

In Your Saturday Mail

Features you must not miss in your weekend China Mail:

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BRITISH TRANSPORT INDUSTRY CRISIS

Workers versus Government

Serious Strikes Threaten The Country

London, Apr. 10.

Serious strikes within a month in the nationalised transport industry threatened Britain tonight after the rejection of trade union wage claims for 450,000 railway workers.

A two-to-one vote by a three-member Railway Arbitration Tribunal against granting pay and shorter working week demands produced immediate conferences among angry union chiefs.

Leaders of the 370,000-strong National Union of Railwaymen held a 90-minute meeting and decided to ask the chiefs of two other unions involved to meet them to plan "joint action."

An NUR official said the rejection was received with "disquiet and concern." He warned there might be "wild-cat strikes" by railmen in protest.

Repercussions

Mr Iain Macleod, Labour Minister, has been told of the possibility of serious repercussions resulting from the Tribunal's decision. It has been described in some industrial circles as the biggest and most complete turnaround ever known in arbitration.

The immediate prospect foresees a possible link-up between a London bus strike of 50,000 men already timed for May 5 and a national rail stoppage protesting against the refusal to increase wages.

A further 150,000 rail workers including 20,000 London underground men are expected to be involved as acceptance of their parallel pay claims depended on the Tribunal award.

It appeared inevitable that they would support whatever action taken by their disgruntled colleagues.

Are Pressing

Meanwhile, provincial busmen are pressing for more pay and are believed to be ready to back the London bus workers if necessary. The London busmen recently refused to consider their demand for a ten shillings and sixpence a week rise, though they were offered eight shillings and sixpence.

Third Union

While the NUR leaders conferred, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen representing 70,000 members held brief high-level talks and announced that a decision on their next move would be reached tomorrow. At the weekend the third union

IMPASSE IN GOOD OFFICES MISSION

Paris, Apr. 11.

The French Cabinet, meeting here today, faced the problem of finding a way out of the impasse reached by the Anglo-American good offices mission in its bid to re-establish Franco-Tunisian negotiations.

The negotiations were broken off after the French bombing of the Tunisian village of Sidiel, near the Algerian border.

The Anglo-American mission — Mr Harold Beeley of Britain and Mr Robert Murphy of the United States — has since been flying back and forth between France and Tunisia, having lengthy talks with leaders of both nations.

Every effort is being made here to avoid recognising the deadlock and the official description of the present position is that it represents "the end of phase one of the good offices mission."

Main difficulty in the mission is the question of the control of the Algerian-Tunisian frontier, which President Habib Bourguiba has rejected. —Reuter.

TRADES UNIONS WARNED TO MEND WAYS

London, Apr. 10.

Lord Hinchinbrooke, an independent Conservative Member of Parliament, said here tonight that the trades unions must "mend their ways or there will be an end to them."

He told a Conservative meeting that "any massive strikes now, promoted by selfishness, ignorance or a British neglect of the welfare of others, may well cost them the whole process structure they have spent so many years developing."

Lord Hinchinbrooke added that the cost of living was being held steady and the only thing that could make it rise to crisis point next Autumn would be a failure of the Government to stand firm on current wage claims—even if that meant holding out in the bitter controversy of a transport strike.

JUSTICE?

He declared: "The unions are now demanding higher wages to offset the rise in prices since their last successful claim. But it was their last successful claim that put prices where they are now."

"In 1955-57 we paid ourselves £700 million more for no increase in output. The unions call that justice, but the ordinary man calls it robbery."

Lord Hinchinbrooke resigned the Government Whip over the Anglo-French invasion of Suez in 1956. —Reuter.

Bomb Incidents

Nicosia, Apr. 10.

An incendiary bomb exploded in a yacht at Kyrenia, north Cyprus, tonight, and unexploded bombs were found in three other yachts in the harbour.

Two bombs exploded in a water pumping unit serving a military camp, causing some damage. In Nicosia, some youths set fire to an English woman's car. —France-Press.

RAN AMOK: KILLED 5

Singapore, Apr. 11.

The Straits Times said today five men were killed and one wounded when a clerk ran amok with a shotgun in the Borneo town of Brunel last Sunday.

Brunel Town is the capital of the British-protected State of Brunel.

The Times said the man was later found dead in the bedroom of his home after police had used teargas to try to make him surrender. —Reuter.

FRENCH UNLOAD BRITISH ARMS SHIP

Rome, Apr. 10.

The French authorities unloaded 80 cases of rifles from the British cargo ship, Baldo Experto, today and opened an investigation to make sure they are not destined for the Algerian rebels.

The ship's Captain submitted a manifest showing that the seven tons of weapons were old

rifles loaded in Leghorn, Italy, and destined for Hamburg, Germany. Under standing instructions from Paris, port authorities must run a careful check on all transiting arms shipments.

The weapons were unloaded and stored up alongside the ship which is tied up in the southern port section under strong military guard. —United Press.

BIG BEN CELEBRATES

Bong, Bong Bong.... For A Hundred Years



Big Ben saw a 100 years go by

London, Apr. 10.

At eight o'clock this evening the stentorian tones of Big Ben echoed across the rooftops of London with a special message.

It was exactly 100 years old. At eight o'clock on the evening of April 10, 1858, across the Thames River in Whitechapel, workmen poured 17 tons of molten metal into a giant mould—end Big Ben was born.

It took two weeks for the metal to cool completely and many more to carefully finish the shaping of the bell. When it was finished the bell weighed 13 tons.

Then came the job of hauling it up the 336 foot high Victoria Bell Tower that tops the Houses of Parliament.

HUGE BELL

Inch by inch, the workmen hoisted it up. It took a week to get the huge bell into place at the top.

On November 18, 1859, the bell tolled out for the first time. In 1859 the clock itself was installed—a clock so big that the time could be read from all over London.

On the night of May 10-11, 1941, the Houses of Parliament were hit by German bombs. The fire blacked and scarred the face of Big Ben and the apparatus for broadcasting its chimes over the BBC were put out of order.

But the clock continued its unerring chimes without interruption except for recent repairs and face-lifting. —United Press.

MANIAC DUMPS WOMAN IN MOAT

Sydney, Apr. 10.

An army barracks was sealed off today and 110 men confined to barracks while detectives carried out an intensive hunt for the maniac who attacked an English Major's wife last night.

A constant vigil was maintained at the bedside of the injured woman, Mrs Victoria Joan Hawkins, 39, of Matlock, Derbyshire, who is still unconscious. Major Hawkins, a Londoner, is on loan from the Royal Army Service Corps, and has been in Australia for about 18 months attached to the Royal Australian Army Service Corps.

STRANGLE

Mrs Hawkins was found in a century old 12 feet moat yesterday evening, 25 yards from her living quarters at the Middle-Head military quarters, near here.

Marks on her neck suggested that attempts had been made to strangle her. Practically all her clothing had been ripped off. Police believe she was attacked while writing a letter on the verandah to her home in England.

Detectives found an unfinished letter and there was evidence of a violent struggle on the verandah.

DRAGGED

Marks show where she was dragged to a bridge leading to a bush which crossed the old moat.

Mrs Hawkins was bashed and badly bruised and is suffering from a fractured skull. Her condition today was described as "serious".

The 24-hour vigil is being kept at her bedside in the hope that Mrs Hawkins will regain consciousness and be able to name her attacker. —China Mail Special.

Earl Jellicoe

London, Apr. 11. Earl Jellicoe is today reported to have resigned from the Foreign Office.

His last appointment was as deputy Secretary-General of the Baghdad Pact organisation. —Reuter.

BROKE WORLD PARACHUTE RECORD BY ACCIDENT

Chesterfield, Apr. 11.

Royal Air Force officers are waiting in a hospital here today to take statements from two men who broke the world parachute record — to save their lives.

The men are Flight-Lieutenant John De Salis, aged 29, and Flying Officer Patrick Low, 23. Their secret version of the Canberra jet bomber exploded about 60,000 feet above Monyash, Derbyshire, on Wednesday.

The two men were still strapped to their seats as they dropped to 10,000 feet.

SHOT THEM OUT

At that height, an automatic device shot them out of their seats and opened the parachutes.

It was 18 minutes before they hit the ground.

Oxygen masks saved their lives but the men were admitted to hospital suffering from frostbite.

A security guard from the RAF is guarding them until they are fit enough to talk.

Their Canberra was believed to have been testing high-flying equipment intended for Britain's next Hydrogen-bomb test near Christmas Island in the Pacific. —Reuter.

Support Call

Istanbul, Apr. 10.

Russia has called on Turkey to support Soviet H-bomb policy, it was announced tonight.

Turkey is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the Baghdad Pact. —United Press.

US Pacific Tests Will Not Be Last

Washington, Apr. 10.

Government scientists were reported today to doubt whether the forthcoming United States nuclear tests in the Pacific would yield enough information for President Eisenhower to call off further experiments.

The President said yesterday that he would consider very seriously a unilateral suspension of further testing if the scientists "largely or almost completely found out the things they wanted to know."

But it was pointed out that the President's top scientific advisers told him only last year that it would take from two to five years to perfect a "clean" hydrogen bomb.

Diplomatic observers, therefore, stressed the big "if" surrounding the President's press conference remark.

But one commented that President Eisenhower's statement was likely to heighten the world-wide pressure on the United States and Britain, to end testing without any inspection agreement with the Soviet Union.

The Western position has been that there must be a control system set up to check on observance of an international agreement to suspend testing. Further, the West has coupled a test ban with a cut-off in weapons production.

One report today which quoted high scientific sources as cautioning against the probability that the Pacific tests would provide all the information sought, added that although progress was expected on development of "clean" bombs, the United States would still have a considerable way to go to catch up with the Soviet Union in anti-missile missiles. —Reuter.

Minor Gains For Labour In Council Elections

London, Apr. 10.

Britain's opposition Labour Party made some minor gains in today's municipal elections, the first in a series of month-long balloting for local councils.

Labour won two additional seats in Hereford County Council, three in Brecon, one in the Isle of Wight, and eight seats in Buckinghamshire.

But the Socialists could make no headway in Rutland, where Independents re-won 20 seats to Labour's one, and in Westmorland, where Independents retook 42 seats to Labour's four.

25,000 Seats

The local government elections involve a turnover of more than 25,000 seats in the governing bodies of villages, towns, cities and counties.

The Labour Party expects to reap big gains from the Conservatives' present unpopularity as reflected in recent Parliamentary by-elections.

Anti-Socialists now control about 70 per cent of all municipal governments. Labour's main strength is in the big cities and one in a new division, Conservatives won a seat from Labour. —Reuter.

Protest March Termed Disappointing

London, Apr. 10.

The effects of the four-day 50-mile Easter march in protest against nuclear weapons are described today by one of the sponsors as "disappointing."

Dr Donald Soper, a prominent Methodist clergyman, was in the left-wing weekly Tribune: "As a demonstration we can claim a moderate success. As an evocation, the immediate results cannot be written off."

"But they must be written down as disappointing despite the excellent publicity, which, either intentionally or unwittingly, the march has received."

ANOTHER ERA

Dr Soper adds, however, his conviction that the march—from London to the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston, Berkshire—symbolised the beginning of another era.

He declares: "If public opinion is not yet in favour of banning the H-bomb, it is no longer prepared to this condition of mind from a satisfaction with some other programme."

"On the contrary, the contemporary mood is one of disgust and if public opinion has not turned to pacifism or unilateral disarmament it is turning away from the attitudes which have held sway for so long on the other side." —Reuter.



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CABLE BRIEFS

Lyons, Apr. 10. Playing second fiddle finally got the best of cello player Henri Menon. He opened fire on Bernard Baudot, first cellist of the Lyons Opera Company, where Menon had been previously employed. Menon turned himself in to police after wounding Baudot in the thigh with one of the eight gunshots he fired at him. He told police he had acted from "professional jealousy."—United Press.

London, Apr. 10. The tabloid Daily Sketch today told bomb-conscious Britons that American airmen based here are taking education lessons "so they won't drop their bombs."—United Press.

London, Apr. 10. A public inquiry was held yesterday that the roof of 28 houses in a suburban development blew off during a recent gale because nobody told the builders they should have been nailed down. The builders said they thought the aluminium roofs needed to be nailed only to get them into position.—United Press.

London, Apr. 10. The Richmond Council last night decided to remove a 15-ton statue of Aphrodite, Goddess of Love, from a public park because it is a "monstrosity." Alderman A. McDougall complained that the statue should be retained as an incentive for young men to marry.—United Press.

Hitchin, Apr. 10. Women parishioners today asked church authorities to arrange "a more humane system of kneeling" because the wooden kneelers in St. Mary's Church are ruining their nylon.—United Press.

Aberdeen, Apr. 10. Four university students claimed today they broke into Forthhead Prison, Scotland's toughest gaol, twice and got away unchallenged. It was a warm-up stunt for a charity drive.—United Press.

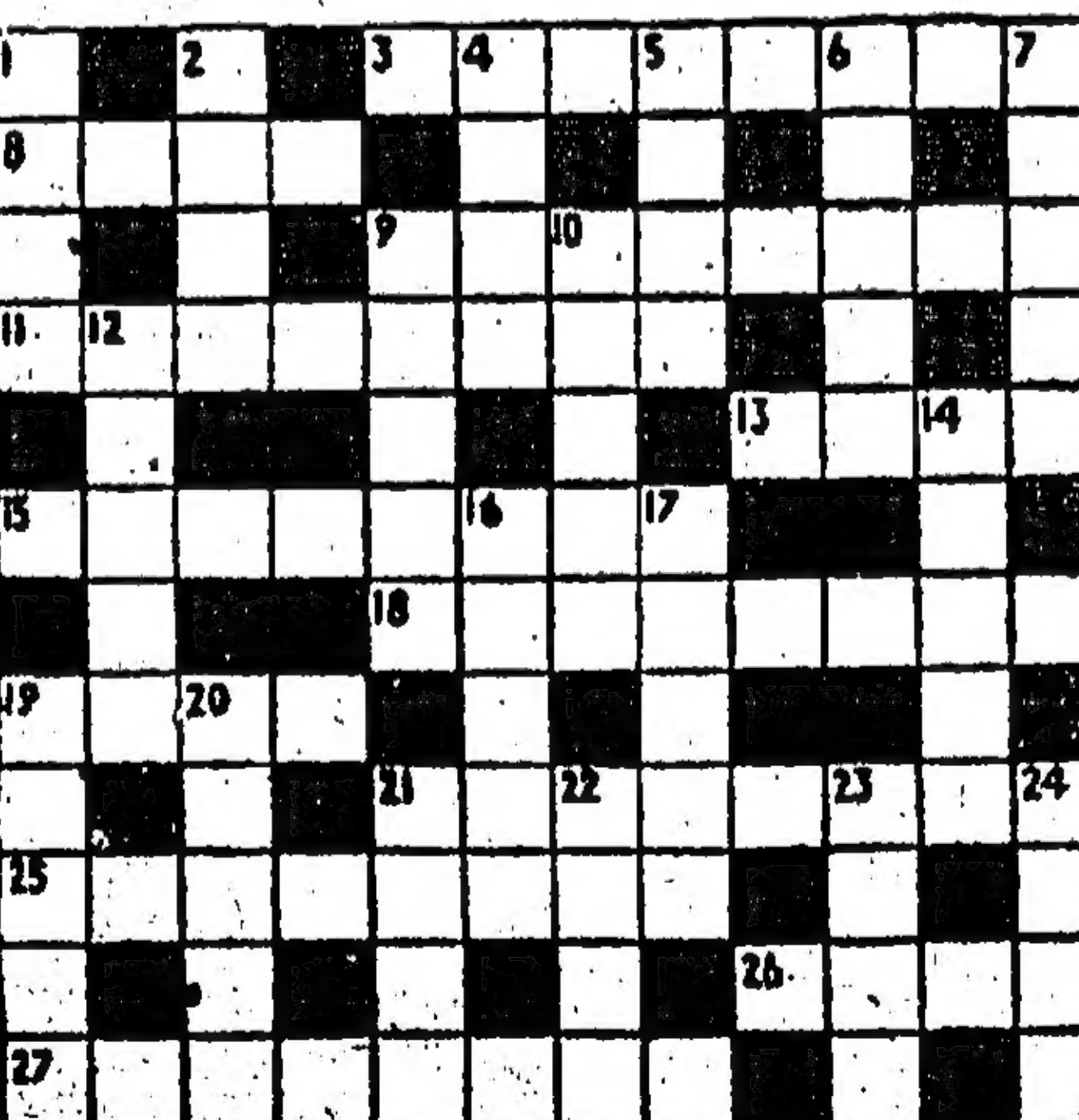
Debra Paget

Jaurez, Apr. 10. Actress Debra Paget, a bride of less than three months, was granted an uncontested divorce today from five-time married actor-singer David Street, 37, on grounds of incompatibility.—United Press.

It Wasn't The Sputnik II

Cambridge, Mass., Apr. 10. SCIENTISTS at Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory said that a flaming object seen by three airline crewmen near Baton Rouge, Louisiana today could not have been Russian satellite Sputnik II.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Places where the beer is watered? (8).
 - Rarin' to go (4).
 - Hatch (8).
 - Western county (10).
 - Profound (4).
 - Possibly eternal shape (8).
 - The batsman who couldn't care less? (6).
 - Reptiles (4).
 - They dither (6).
 - He's all for discipline (10).
 - Are mountaineers nervous when on it? (4).
 - Scatter (8).
- DOWN**
- Support of the speaker (4).
 - Keep moving (4).
 - Barley bristles (4).
 - Put to flight (4).
 - Speechless (6).
 - Chimney-cleaner (6).
 - Potters for golfers (6).
 - A big fiddle (6).
 - Monstrous creatures (8).
 - Leaves the not right (5).
 - Pick up (6).
 - Lester White Heron (6).
 - Pointed (5).
 - Capital place for pairs (5).
 - Many a man proposes to get on (4).
 - Examined for soundness (4).
 - Continue in circulation, as it were (4).
 - Canal place (4).

THURSDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Roll up, 4 Sumps, 7 First aid, 8 Latch, 9 Tease, 11 Lash, 12 Sample, 13 Order, 14 Crut, 15 Respers, 20 Ruler, 21 Dodge, 22 Rife, 23 Lisle, 24 Prattle, 25 Slight, 26 Vain, 27 Dred, 28 Campbell, 29 Arouse, 30 Stoker, 31 Lather, 32 Dread, 33 Lists.

Tour Of Hungary Completed Successfully
NIKITA RETURNS IN TRIUMPHWe'll Show The
USA, Says
Soviet Premier

Moscow, Apr. 10. Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev returned triumphantly from an eight-day trip to Hungary today and told 15,000 Russians the Soviet Union would "show the Americans" by economic successes, not war.

Khrushchev was whisked to the new Lenin Stadium Sports Palace for his speech immediately after he arrived from Budapest. The trip to Hungary was his first to a foreign country as the Soviet Premier. He told the Stadium crowd that he had received a "simply wonderful" reception in Hungary, where Soviet troops crushed anti-Communist uprising in the Autumn of 1956.

"We shall not wage war, but we shall always be ready for war," said Khrushchev. "Let them (capitalist countries) know that."

FINED FOR
BREAKING
THE FAST

Klang, Malaya, Apr. 10. Three boatmen were each fined \$5(M) for breaking the Muslim fast.

A policeman said he had caught them eating in a railway station. He arrested the two, and the food seller, who was fined \$5(M)10.

A number of religious offences are punishable by the courts in the strict-Muslim states of Malaya.—Reuter.

"We must produce more goods, and then we shall show the Americans," he said.

Not Long

"It will not be very long. We will jump the obstacle of the highest capitalist country, which is the USA. Then, my dear friends, we will see who eats the most and who has the most clothes."

He again accused the West of deliberately evading the issue of a ban on nuclear weapons tests.

He said it was impossible to keep such test secret today and that Soviet Russia has not prepared to let American aircraft fly over its territory.

He spent most of the speech giving a glowing account of his welcome in Hungary. He had high praise for Hungarian Premier Ferenc Mucsi and Party Secretary János Kádár.—United Press.

The Cuban
Revolt
DwindlesA 'Shoot-To-Kill'
Police Order

Havana, Apr. 10. The Cuban revolt dwindled to only sporadic outbreaks of violence today, with the rebels the target of a relentless house-to-house search by President Fulgencio Batista's police.

"Unofficial reports" said 60 to 80 persons had been killed in the purge by police patrols ordered to root out Communists and rebel sympathisers and to make no arrests. The orders were to shoot to kill.

Tonight it appeared that rebel leader Fidel Castro's revolt had misfired through the rebels' miscalculation of the power and loyalty of the government forces and the people's refusal to join the uprising.

Havana remained tense but mostly peaceful and the same situation was reported in Santiago, Cuba's second largest city.

Santiago, capital of rebel-infiltrated Oriente Province, remained virtually cut off from the remainder of the island. However, United Press correspondent Harold Liden, who returned to Havana from Santiago this evening, reported the city quiet at 2 p.m. He said buses were running and shops were open, although without customers.—United Press.

However, United Press correspondent Harold Liden, who returned to Havana from Santiago this evening, reported the city quiet at 2 p.m. He said buses were running and shops were open, although without customers.—United Press.

The ruling was made in a case brought by the "Danish Ministry" and the Copenhagen municipality against a woman who refused to pay taxes on an unlicensed sum of 500 kroner which she had earned by prostitution.

THE NAVY'S NOISIEST-AND
FASTEST

NAVY's noisiest aircraft — and it's fastest and heaviest as well — the Super Marine Scimitar, has almost completed trials at the Royal Navy Air Station at Ford in Sussex. The Scimitar goes into squadron service on June 3, and will be embarked in the fleet's latest carrier H.M.S. Victoria four months later. In the Scimitar, the traditionally silent service — the Royal Navy — has the noisiest aircraft ever to land on a flight deck. To cope with this special sound proofing has had to be installed in the aircraft carrier. — The Times.

LANA TURNER TO TESTIFY AT
HOLLYWOOD INQUEST TODAY

—Daughter Excused From Attending

Hollywood, Apr. 10.

Lana Turner waited today to testify at the publicity-spotted inquest into the slaying of her lover, Johnny Stompanato.

Friends said the blonde actress was "holding up as well as could be expected under the circumstances." They said she had not eaten but had been downstairs briefly at her leased Beverly Hills home.

Lana has appeared in public only briefly since her 14-year-old daughter, Cheryl, plunged an 8-inch butcher knife into handsome Johnny last Friday night in the film star's bedroom.

The home where Miss Turner secluded herself from the storm of publicity over the death of her 32-year-old lover was the scene of a party last night, but the actress wasn't invited. Bill Hollingsworth, owner of the house, held a party in the servants' quarters and on the tennis courts behind the big home for friends who were leaving for Europe.

While Miss Turner prepared herself for the next role in the real-life drama, authorities ruled her daughter would not

have to attend tomorrow's inquest into Stompanato's death. Coroner Theodore J. Murphy struck the girl's name from the list of witnesses yesterday after attorney Jerry Giesler objected that the principle of protection of juveniles by the court would be destroyed if Cheryl was forced to appear.

The tall, dark-haired girl faces a juvenile court hearing on April 24 in Santa Monica on whether she will be held for the slaying of Stompanato, who she told police threatened to disfigure her beautiful mother.

Meanwhile, signs grew that the terror love of the actress for Stompanato, former bodyguard for ex-mobster Mickey Cohen, had degenerated from lofty passion into fear or at least undefined dread.

Ted Stauffer, manager of Acapulco's Villa Vera where Miss Turner and Stompanato stayed, told United Press the beautiful blonde star appeared worried in comparison to earlier visits.

It read in part: "The lawful conviction in my heart and tummy... you must let me be alone in my own world for a while to rest, think, beg you, don't do anything just yet. I'll know when the time is right, if it is ever to be again."

Police Chief Clinton H. Anderson of Beverly Hills said "Lana" told him of violent arguments she had with Stompanato on their return from Acapulco last March 10.

The growing arguments with the threat by the actress of ending the romance were climaxed by her refusal to accompany Stompanato to the Academy Award ceremonies.

But finally everything was set. After two releases, beautiful Hongkong star Shih Ying was inside the straw-chatched hut with co-star Chang Cheng, Malay film star Mariana and two extras.

The hut was set after. And as flames leaped high and cameras began whirling, front door flew open and women dashed out of the hut through the fire.

But, no Shih Ying. Perplexed cameramen ground on, wondering what had happened, when Shih Ying appeared from the back-terrified and shaking.

"I went out through back door," she said, "and I was the last to leave."

When she refused to pay the tax, a bailiff's court ruled that it was incompatible with usual morality to collect taxes from income earned by prostitution.

The court of appeal today quashed this ruling and the woman will be required to pay. (In British prostitution she is taxed on whatever she earns, but it is held by the court that a woman who is not a prostitute is not liable for the tax.)

Criticised The Gimo

Loses Round In Fight
Against Deportation
And The Firing Squad

Chicago, Apr. 10.

Hsuan Wei, once a naval attaché of the Taipei government, today lost a round in his fight to avoid deportation to Formosa, where, he has said, he may face death because of his criticism of the government of Chiang Kai-shek.

Elliot Burman, special immigration examiner, gave a finding to Robert Robinson, regional director of Immigration, recommending Hsuan Wei's petition for a stay of deportation be denied.

The finding of the examiner was that Hsuan Wei had failed to substantiate his charges that he would face physical hardship and persecution if he returned to Formosa.

Franklin Cole, Hsuan's lawyer, has five days in which to file a brief in opposition to the finding. The entire record then will be forwarded to Nathan Ewing, regional immigration director of St. Paul, Minnesota, for final disposition.

Mr Cole told the United Press he had been unable to reach Hsuan since he was sent a copy of the finding. He said it was "almost certain" he would file a brief in protest to accompany the report to the regional director.

The only further recourse "as I see it at this moment," Mr Cole said, would be to seek habeas corpus in Federal District Court.

Hsuan Wei, who enrolled at Northwestern University as a student after refusing to return to Formosa, has not been contacted by Mr. Cole, the lawyer said, since the latest finding was issued.

Hsuan was sent to the United States in 1952 for Marine training, but began a battle to avoid return after he was ordered to return to Formosa.—United Press.

HOW THE SAC
MAKES SURE
ITS BOMBERS
DO NOT
START A WAR

Washington, Apr. 10.

Details on the United States Strategic Air Command's "fail safe" system to ensure that bombers do not accidentally set off a war were made public by the US Air Force today.

A SAC spokesman said the procedure was this: A substantial number of jet bombers were "launched" from their North American bases whenever an unidentified, suspicious object was spotted on radar screens.

The spokesman declined to say specifically that the bombers carried hydrogen bombs—"All I can say is that we do have the capability," he said.

After taking off on one of these "alerts," the bombers were under orders to fly to "certain points." The spokesman did not say where these points were, but he did not deny that they were on the way towards potential enemy targets in time of war.

STRICT ORDERS

But, and this was where "fail safe" came in, the bombers were strictly ordered not to proceed beyond these "certain points" without positive radio instructions to do so.

On the contrary, they had standing orders to return to base automatically unless otherwise instructed. If their radios broke down, this automatic "back to base" instruction still held good.

"The purpose is to ensure that the bombers do not start a war by accident," the spokesman said.

He declined to disclose how often Strategic Air Command bombers had taken off in response to "alerts."

Asked whether the same system of returning bombers without "fail-safe" applied to SAC bases abroad, the spokesman said: "It is applicable here in the United States."

The stand-by bomber "alert force" had not replaced last round-the-clock air patrols maintained by Strategic Air Command, he said; the patrol is rather minute compared with the alert force.

On one occasion an alert had turned out on investigation to have been caused by a flock of geese creating an "echo" on radar screens.—Reuter.

Envoy Dies

London, Apr. 10. Sir Charles Brinsley Peake, former British Ambassador in Athens, died in hospital here today aged 61.—Reuter.

KING TO SEE
MANOEUVRES

Bangkok, Apr. 10.

King Phumiphon of Thailand will attend air-ground manoeuvres of the South-East Asia Treaty Organisation in central Thailand later this month, Thai organisers of the manoeuvres announced today.

Santa headquarters said air units from New Zealand, Thailand, Britain and the United States would take part in the manoeuvres from April 22 to 26.—Reuter.

Pittsburgh, Apr. 10.

Police closed a department store here today when a plate glass window broke under the pressure of hundreds of people trying to buy television sets and fur coats for \$5 each.

Five women were injured by broken glass.—China Mail Special.

Hongkong Film Actress
Decides Not To Risk It

Singapore, Apr. 10. Movie director Rolf Bayer sweated and shaved eight hours over film scene climax for Shaw Brothers' Studios' Chinese movie "Black Gold."

But finally everything was set. After two releases, beautiful Hongkong star Shih Ying was inside the straw-chatched hut with co-star Chang Cheng, Malay film star Mariana and two extras.

The hut was set after. And as flames leaped high and cameras began whirling, front door flew open and women dashed out of the hut through the fire.

But, no Shih Ying. Perplexed cameramen ground on, wondering what had happened, when Shih Ying appeared from the back-terrified and shaking.

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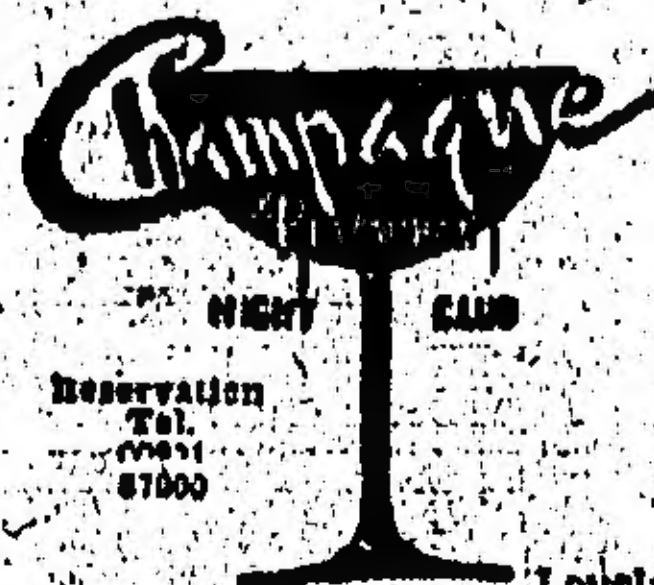
BRITONS SPEND
MORE

London, Apr. 11. Britons spent more on goods, services and food last year than ever before, according to Government statistics published here today. The total of their personal expenditure was £14,045 million. The comparable 1948 figure was £8,471 million.—China Mail Special.

Valentine's
PREPARATION
MEAT-
JUICEOBTAINABLE AT ALL
LEADING STORES.

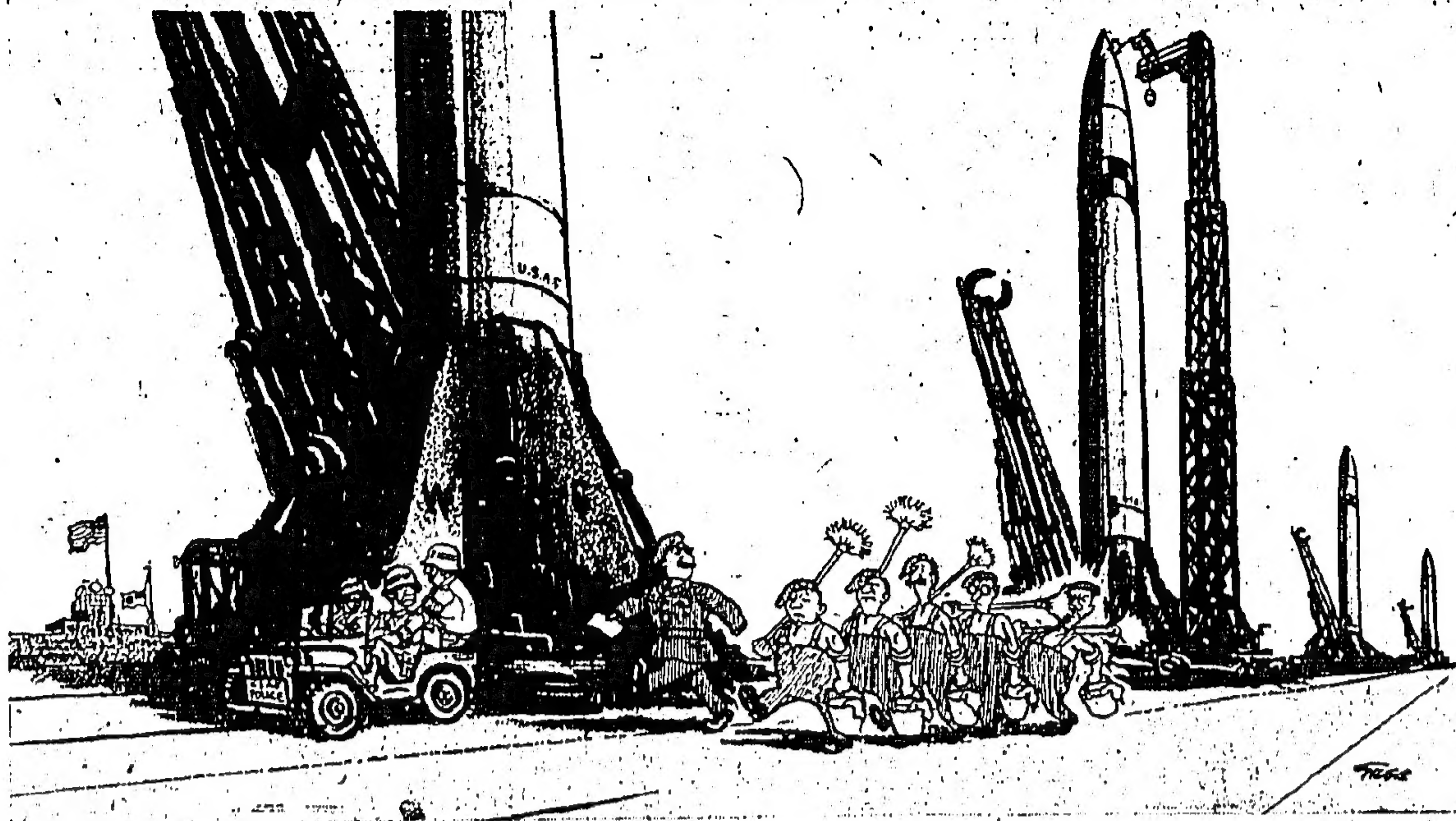
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"Polishing rockets on a U.S. base isn't my idea of celebrating the 40th anniversary of the R.A.F."

STOLEN OIL: THE HARD TRUTH Is America now facing her own ABADAN?

By GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON

A PALACE revolution at Riyadh in Saudi Arabia creates a situation in the Middle East which affords no satisfaction to friends of the United States.

When King Saud abdicated his power and authority, when he handed over the control of his vast revenues to his brother the Emir Faisal, the Americans were brought within reach of their Abadan.

Britain was wrongfully deprived of an immense oil production enterprise which she had built up with her own vision, her own capital, her own technical skill on Persian soil.

When the threat of confiscation came at Abadan, Britain was all alone.

Some of her friends misunderstood the situation. They affected an attitude of indifference and neutrality.

Others, knowing perhaps that Britain had a vast superiority of military power over the Persians, stood aside.

The result was wretched. Britain allowed herself to be cheated out of the Abadan oil in 1951.

It was an unjust, humiliating, and disastrous surrender. But when it occurred, one thing seemed certain: it would not be the last defeat suffered by the Western Powers in the Middle East.

This dismal prediction has been amply borne out. After Abadan came Suez.

The lesson which the Persian fanatic Mossadeg taught was learned by the Egyptian military adventurer Nasser. It was learned well.

After Suez came the spread of Nasser's power to Syria. Now he controlled not only the passage of oil by sea, but also the transit of oil from Iraq through Syrian pipelines to the Mediterranean.

With every forward step Nasser's prestige grew, his influence extended. In Saudi Arabia he now brings off his biggest coup.

The second richest oilfield in the whole of the Middle East, exploited by the American oil company Aramco at a cost of untold millions of dollars, yielding a revenue to King Saud of £120 million a year, now falls into Nasser's power.

He may not use that power at once to challenge the American position in Saudi Arabia.

He may be content with the reality of control with the 50 per cent of revenues which Aramco has been paying to King Saud and which it will now be paying to Nasser's agent Emir Faisal.

Strong reasons should dissuade Nasser and Faisal from an early showdown with the American oil concern.

At this moment, there is an over-production of oil in the world. The Americans—producing at home 40 per cent of all the oil in the world—are able to get along without the Saudi Arabian oil production.

It will stretch, if his vision is realised, from the upper waters of the Nile to the valley of the Tigris. It will include all Arabia, the oil of Kuwait (half American), as well as the oil of Bahrain (all American), and Iraq (partly British).

In carrying out that vast project the money of the Saudi Arabian oilfields will be of incalculable value to Nasser. It will help him, for example, to disrupt Iraq and subdue Jordan.

The first effect of the palace revolution in Saudi Arabia may well be of the order of the £6,000,000 a year subsidy which King Saud paid to King Hussein of Jordan.

If the subsidy is continued, it will certainly be on conditions that would divide Jordan from Nasser's detested rival, Nuri al-Said of Iraq.

So the more immediate danger in the Middle East may be a political one, extending beyond the borders of Saudi Arabia.

Every independent State may soon be faced by the fact of Egyptian infiltration and the threat of Egyptian overlordship. But this will afford no consolation to those who watch ever America's oil interests and have the wit to distinguish between Nasser's present smiles and Nasser's future demands.

These men have few illusions. They are not likely to underestimate Nasser's ambition.

A great prize lies almost within grasp. The 176,820 million tons of oil of the Middle East, 20 per cent of the oil production of the globe. It is a prize worth plotting for. A prize worth some waiting for.

The attack on the United States' power to obtain, refine, and sell her Saudi Arabian oil in conformity with her own commercial notions may not be delivered immediately.

But it is present as a threat. It is implicit in the new political situation at Riyadh. In that desert capital the ghost of Abadan is walking.

In facing this danger the United States will need all her determination and clear-headedness. She will need too the help of her friends.



The statuesque Miss Shelley takes the back road to film fame

LIMELIGHT
by
RAMSDEN
GREIG

OUT of the shadows of B pictures, co-features and obscure Italian films comes Miss Barbara Shelley. Miss Shelley is London-born, 25 years of age, auburn-haired, lush brown eyes. She is also what the sculptors call statuesque.

Now London gets its first look at a film called Camp on Blood Island, which is all about the hot, twenty, tormented life that was led in Japanese prisoner of war camps. Miss Shelley, all hot, sweaty and tormented, has the feminine lead. She also has fine leading men—Carl Mohner, Edward Underdown, Andre Morel, Walter Fitzgerald and Mitchell Goodlife. And she is directed by Vol Guest.

CAUSED BY SMOKE

Miss Shelley is delighted. "At last," she says, "I am making a film that means something." Barbara Shelley has waited a long time for the big break. And she has waited patiently.

In a voice that her friends describe as sounding like smouldering milk, but which has actually got that way through smoking 40 cigarettes a day, she told me: "I've probably taken so long to make the grade because when I first got into show business four years ago I decided upon an outrageously original plan of campaign. I told myself: Make your films first—and then get yourself publicised and photographed. I realise that I was setting some kind of precedent by making films before getting myself known. But I was prepared to take the chance."

Thus model girl Barbara Shelley set off for Italy four years ago "intent on a holiday but hoping that someone might give me a break in films."

I asked Miss Shelley, who is no Martini type, "because I have a lousy liver and every time I drink anything alcoholic I swell up and turn blue," why she did not first try her hand at a film career in England.

Miss Shelley said: "In Britain you are made to pose for still pin-up pictures before you ever

get near a movie camera. That I do not like."

OUT OF CHARACTER

Miss Shelley, who, I should imagine, would look far from repulsive in a pin-up shot, explained her objection. "Why should I turn up in the newspapers wearing only a little short skirt. That is not the real me. I don't walk about—the streets of London wearing only a little short skirt. So why should I present myself to the newspaper readers wearing only a little short skirt?"

In Italy, Miss Shelley met Walter Chiari, who is the man who had that tempestuous romance with Ava Gardner. Mr Chiari did not have a tempestuous romance with Miss Shelley, but he did introduce her to Italian films. She made 12 films in Italy about which she can boast freely because no one she knows has seen any of them in Britain.

She returned to England last year and to date has made five films for British studios.

One day I'll make love like Brando, says Mr. Brazzi

BUT MEANTIME THE STUDIO
PAYS HIM TO KEEP HIS
NAILS CLEAN

THE waiters were emptying the ash-trays of cigarette ends, olive stones and flash bulbs. For Mr. Rossano Brazzi, the 41-year-old grey-haired Italian Casanova of the casting directories it had been a hectic reception.

Upstairs in his 20 guinea-a-day suite Mr Brazzi sipped three juices, asked permission to remove his shoes, and said: "This part of the film actor's life I do not much care for. These past few days I have been playing the salesman, selling my picture and myself."

"Yesterday I was in America telling the Press what a fine picture South Pacific is. Today I am here in London. Tomorrow I will be doing the same thing in Paris. Have a drink. I personally, could not face one. My stomach is all screwed-up."

Mr Brazzi looked like a vacuum cleaner salesman who had experienced the worst day of his career.

"New acting," said Mr Brazzi, who has played opposite and in close proximity to Joan Crawford, Glynis Johns, Sophia Loren and Mimi Gaynor, "I love."

From the bedroom came a call from Mr Brazzi's 20-stone wife, Lydia.

"Lydia," said Mr Brazzi, "I love also."

But it was not a love call that came from Lydia in the bedroom. She wanted to lunch.

Mr Brazzi whose dietetic predilections are less spectacular than his wife's nibbled at a potato crisp. "Always," ladies at these Press receptions ask me about sex. It is becoming more and more difficult for me to give them the answers they want. They want me to make sex mysterious," and they want to know why the Italian is always considered to be the great lover.

How can I disillusion them by telling them that there is no mystery about sex and that Italians are regarded as great lovers only by American ladies and British ladies.

"And that is because we are something of an, or, novelty. I will guarantee that if you set a Scotsman down in the middle of an Eskimo village he will be regarded as a great mysterious lover. Merely because he is a novelty."

NOT WANTED

The carefully manicured fingers of Mr Brazzi picked up another potato crisp, and I said: "When is the great but elegant lover going to get dirt under his finger-nails and turn up on the screen as the great but uncouth lover in the manner of Marlon Brando in Streetcar Named Desire? Or doesn't he want to?"



ROSSANO BRAZZI
The elegant lover.

Mr Brazzi, authorising Mrs Brazzi's luncheon order of Sphagetti Bolognaise, said: "As a young unknown actor in Italy I have played such parts. But the studios I work for like me clean."

"And since they pay me the money I need—they get me as they want me. Maybe when I have enough money to be independent I will make this kind of picture. Meanwhile, I make pictures with clean finger-nails."

When Rossano Brazzi looks into his cinematic future he can see as far ahead as 1959. By then he thinks he will be making the film he has always wanted to make—the life of Marco Polo.

He said: "The script is being prepared. I am ready and I am willing."

If I know Hollywood and Rossano Brazzi, Marco Polo's jaunt from Italy to Cathay will be strewn with lovely women. —(London Express Service).

ANNIVERSARY STORY Part of the Price that must be Paid in a new and hazardous Art—

CLOSE to Ashbury Park, New Jersey, on the coast, the fog rose higher and higher until the Akron was occasionally submerged like a giant whale in a ghostly rolling sea.

Just after 10 o'clock, the coastline was left behind and, with a terrifying suddenness, the airship was enveloped by a raging thunderstorm.

For safety's sake, wireless aerials had to be drawn in, rendering the Akron alone and silent, without the benefit of radio directions and weather reports. Despite her great bulk, the ship escaped, being struck by lightning and for a long period remarkably stable. But after midnight she ran into turbulent air and rapidly lost height. Ballast was dropped and at 700 feet Akron levelled off. Then she began to rise so quickly that her nose had to be eased down at 1,000 feet.

Then fierce gusts of wind struck the airship, which began to roll alarmingly. The elevator control rope was carried away and the dirigible dropped swiftly towards the cold sea. This time, the descent continued unchecked. A moment later, the rudder control snapped and it was no longer possible even to steer the ship. She was completely out of control. Tail-first, the huge craft dived towards the Atlantic.

"Stand by for crash," Willey, seeking the foam-crested waves through a control car window, shouted "Stand by for a crash."

A few seconds later, he was sucked miraculously through the window and swept away by the sea. Lightning flashes pierced the darkness enabled him to see the broken Akron. The airship was submerged for about one-third of her diameter, her bow inclined upwards at an angle of 90 degrees. Men were

swimming around the wreckage. They stood little chance of survival. Lifebelts were considered too heavy to be regularly included in an airship's equipment. There was one life-raft on the Akron, but none of the crew could reach it.

Commander Willey's first idea was to try to regain the airship. Fortunately, he had second thoughts. He managed to grasp a small board and clinging to that he watched the Akron sink slowly beneath the waves. The cries of his shipmates were soon silenced. After half-an-hour in the water, he was taken to shore by a German tanker and rescued.

Three other men were picked up by the same ship, but one of them, Chief Radio Officer Copeland, died although artificial respiration was kept up for several hours.

Naval and coastguard vessels searched an area of 100 square miles, but no other survivors were found. The small airship

J-3 also braved the storm, but was herself blown into the sea and one of her officers drowned.

Exactly why the Akron crashed has never been established. The disaster has, in fact, become one of the strangest mysteries of aviation history.

Commander Rosenthal, airship expert and first captain of the Akron would not believe that the ship was violently sucked down or wrecked by the weather. One of the chief factors contributing to the accident appears to have been a deceptive climatic.

One of the survivors, Seaman Deal, said, however, that just before the impact with the sea he awoke to see gliders bending and buckling above his bunk. He ran to the gangway where he saw control wires hanging loosely, although apparently intact, and a fuel tank broken loose from its cradle. While he was running forward to get

pilfers to cut the tank free, the ship hit the waves.

A Congressional Committee criticised naval activity before and after the accident, but it was agreed that the ship was structurally sound. A Naval Court of Inquiry admitted that errors of judgment may have been made, but clearly without negligence.

"This disaster," said the Judge Advocate, "is part of the price which must inevitably be paid in the development of any new and hazardous art... the minds of men have projected a fleet of such craft in the air, and some day it must fly there."

That dream of the future never materialised. Within five years, America's naval airship construction programme was abandoned.

The Akron's sister ship, Macon, also crashed in the sea, early in 1935. Her crew was luckier; all but two survived.

Keep your sugar dry!

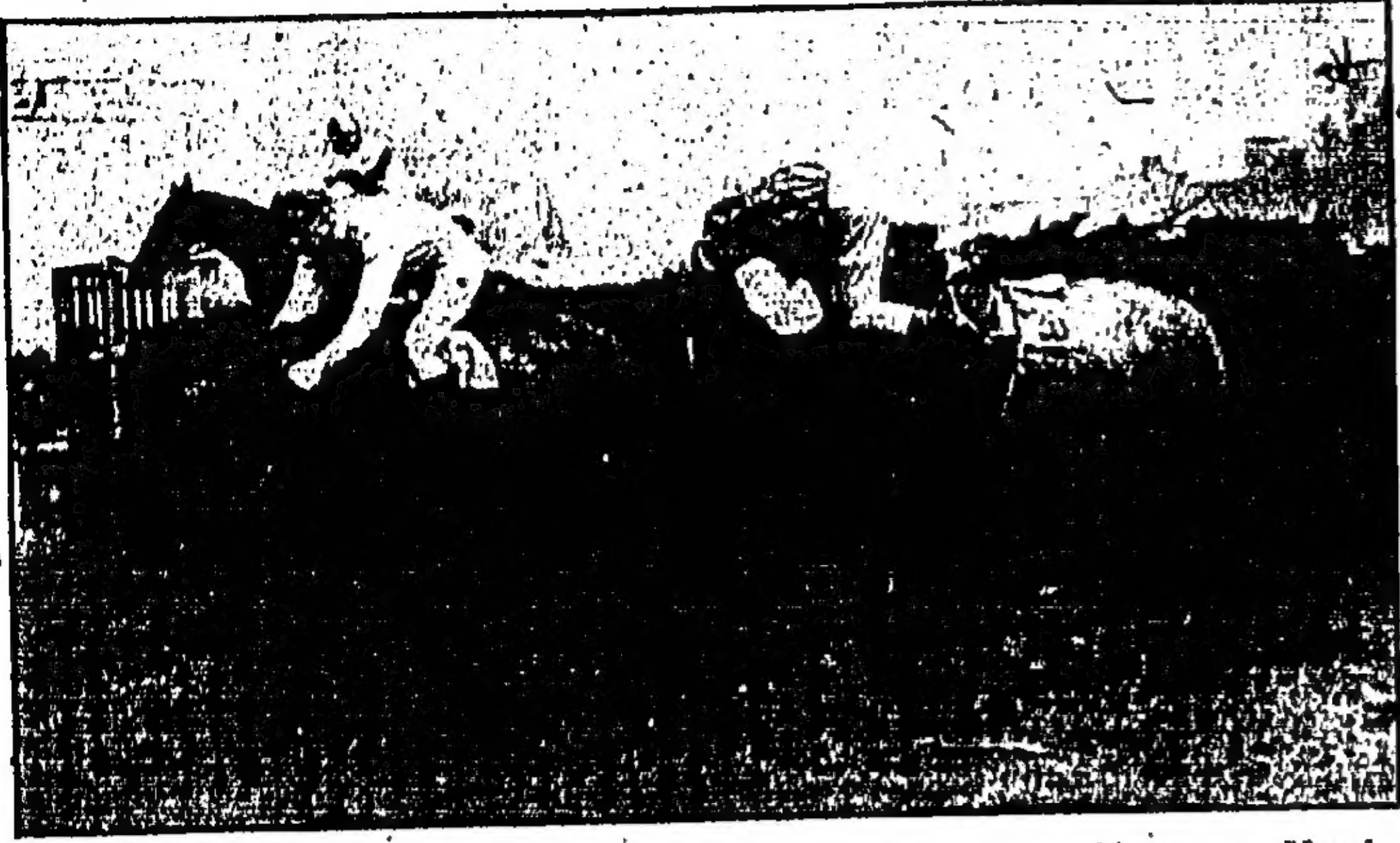
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MR WHAT WINS GRAND NATIONAL



The Irish horse, Mr What, won the Grand National at Aintree on March 29. Tiberetta was second, and Green Drill third. The picture shows jockey R. E. Jenkins hanging on as Motion Lane (No. 30) almost falls. With him is Colledge Master (No. 7).—Central Press Photo.

1960 Winter Olympics May Be The Last

Lausanne, Apr. 10. The International Olympic Committee warned tonight that the Winter Olympics may be scrapped soon because of increasing "amateurism" in winter sports. The IOC Chancellor, Otto Mayer, commenting on the dispute on the amateur status of champion skier Toni Sailer, who is playing the role of a skier in a motion picture, said the whole amateur system of winter sports was much more on public trial than Sailer's status.

Because of widespread "amateurism" in skiing, figure skating and ice hockey, Mr Mayer said, "we are heading towards the end of Winter Olympics."

"If the structure of skiing is not profoundly modified, the 1960 Winter Games in Squaw Valley, California, may well be the last in the history of modern Olympics."

Mr Mayer's statement came after the World Ski Federation announced that title Olympic champion Sailer will appear before the IT's Amateurism Committee "early in May" as that it can be determined whether his film work has made him a pro.

Acting Talents

Sailer contends he is not capitalising on his skiing but on his acting talents.

Rees-Fairbairn Share Lead In PGA Tourney

Llandudno, Apr. 10. Dai Rees, the British Ryder Cup captain, shared the lead on the 140 mark here today with Lancashire player Tom Fairbairn after two rounds of the Professional Golfers Association National Close Championship—the first major tournament of Britain's golf season.

A ruling by the Organising Committee, which made a decision against Rees, oddly enough turned out in his favour. At the 400-yard, thirteenth hole, the Welshman landed his drive on a sandy patch in the middle of the fairway.

Rees was uncertain whether it lay in a rabbit scrape from which he could pick up and drop without penalty.

He decided to play a second ball and ask for a ruling later. He played the first ball and got down in four, and took a five with the second ball.

The committee ruled that the first ball should count and this gave Rees a round of 70.

Record Round

Fairbairn, who sank seven single putts and had only one five—when he missed from four feet at the 11th—today had a record-shattering round of 67.

This was two strokes better than the record set jointly yesterday by former Scottish Champion Hamish Ballingall and young Ryder Cup player Peter Mills.

Ballingall (78 today) and Mills (78) were also among the 29 qualifiers for tomorrow's final 36 holes.

Nearest challenger to Rees and Fairbairn was Ryder Cup golfer Harry Bradshaw, of Ireland, with 143 (72 and 71).

The championship carries a first prize of £250 and the Slazenger Trophy.—Reuter.

HKFC SOCCER TEAM

The following will represent the Hongkong Football Club in a First Division Soccer League match against Army to be played tomorrow commencing 8 p.m.: J. Medley, G. Armstrong, D. Sharp, D. Taylor, P. Gardner, J. Kershaw, J. Mah, D. Armstrong, K. Kidd, Beasley, Blain and R. Brown.

TO THE GAMES VIA THE POLE

A SHORT LIST TO FOLLOW

By TOM FORREST

There is one sure way of finding a string of winners this season—follow the Queen's 27 horses. The team is all out to repeat the phenomenal success of last year, when all Royal records were smashed with £62,212 prize money in 30 races.

All the Queen's horses cannot find a place in my short list to follow, so I settle for a dark chestnut colt with a white blaze on his face to head my list.

This is Douteille, who took the 2,000 Guineas at Kempton last April, to record the first of 1957's golden run of royal victories.

Douteille will carry the famous purple and scarlet jacket in all the main cup races, with the Ascot Gold Cup on June 10 as his No. 1 target.

'Certainty'

He has not yet proved his stamina for two miles and over, but on his breeding by Prince Chevalier out of Cesarewitch winner Above Board this is a virtual certainty.

Courage to maintain the sleekness of his stride against the strongest challenges has been a marked feature of Douteille's racing. And he will not be short of class, for he lost only one race, the Derby, in five outings last season.

Here are the rest of my horses to follow this season—

● **ABELIA**, 3 years (trainer, Noel Murless). Blinding speed from the gate will earn her a place at the top in sprints. She hates the mud, but could be irresistible on good going.

● **FORENSIC**, 3 (G. Barling). May never be a star, but should pay his way in sprint handicaps against his own age group.

● **LACYDON**, 3 (B. van Cutsem). Won only once last year, but over longer distances he will reveal that stamina is his greatest asset.

● **COCKED HAT**, 3 (P. Hastings Bass). Raced only three times last autumn and won twice. He has scope for plenty of improvement.



HARRY CARR rides the Queen's horses.

● **FAULTLESS SPEECH**, 3 (H. Wallington). Is game and consistent, and his trainer is sure to choose his races well.

● **LORENZO**, 3 (H. Wragg). Is a good-looking colt whose recent work at Newmarket promises early success.

● **TRUE LIGHT**, 3 (C. Elstey). A light programme last season should pay off in steady improvement now. Will stay two miles in the autumn.

● **CULLANHALL**, 4 (W. Hall). Combines the names of his trainer and owner George Cullington. Not many Northern stayers will beat him this year.

● **MR MOSES**, 4 (M. Pope). Is an honest hardworker for the long-distance events.

● **VARIETY KING**, 6 (G. Boyd). Has the speed to be exploited by his new trainer in Scotland and the North.

(London Express Service).

Australians Will Train At Honolulu And Vancouver

By ARCHIE QUICK

With less than a hundred days to go to the grand opening of the Sixth Empire and Commonwealth Games by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh on July 18 at Cardiff, Australian athletes got a thrill by the announcement that they will fly to Wales over the North Pole.

To obviate numerous stops and starts their air trip has been routed via Honolulu, Vancouver, North Pole, Amsterdam and London with a twenty hours stop at Honolulu and one of five hours at Vancouver. At each place (except, of course, the North Pole) training facilities will be at their disposal. It is expected the New Zealanders will follow the same route.

Two more countries have entered for the Games—Dominica (British West Indies) and India, who will send a party of twenty. It is Dominica's first appearance, and they will be represented by two competitors and an official. Famous Rugby International and sprint champion Ken Jones, of Newport, has been appointed Welsh team manager for athletics. He played wing threequarter for his country on 44 occasions.

Secret List

Two soldiers, one a Regular and the other a National Serviceman, are in the "secret list" shortly to be issued by the Amateur Athletic Association of possible candidates for the England team. They are SM1 E.A. Cleaver, APTC, in "discuss at which he reached 165 feet recently," and Corporal W.O. Wilson, Royal Signals, in the high jump. He has consistently cleared six feet one inch, and is a former AAA Junior Champion.

In Cardiff the Licensing Justices have agreed for hotels and restaurants to remain open until 11.30 p.m. during the Games "Fortnight," and the City Transport Authorities are running many midnight buses to outlying districts.

Olympic Gold Medalist Lieut-Col Harry Llewellyn is to

be President of an International Show Jumping Tournament to be held on the Cardiff City football ground on May 7 to raise funds for the Games. It is expected he will give an exhibition on his famous horse, Foxhunter, while Pat Smythe, Dawn Palothorpe and other famous riders will be appearing.

Nothing Short

Nothing short of a miracle can now prevent Wolverhampton Wanderers winning the First Division Championship for the second time since the War. Season 1953-4 was the only other occasion they have ever headed the table, but since the Cullis regime began they have been runners-up twice, third twice and never in the lower half. Add to that a 1948-9 Cup Final victory, and that the "iron Man" was also their captain and centre half in the two immediate pre-war seasons when they finished second in the League each time and also won the Cup, and his influence on the club can be readily assessed.

Looking at the team now with its well-equipped ground it is difficult to realise that way back in 1923-4 the club spent a year in the Northern Section of the Third Division, and that they did not get out of the Second Division until 1931-2.

The Wanderers' fortunes after that were founded by three men, chairman Bill Oakley, manager Major Frank Buckley, and captain Stan

Cullis, and they owe their success to manager Cullis and captain Billy Wright since the Old Master "retired from" the centre of the Molineux stage.

Physical Fitness

Cullis has moulded Wright to a pattern of his own self, and, in turn, the England captain has drilled his team to Cullis' on-field requirements. They call for 100 per cent physical fitness, complete relentlessness and a style of "long ball" play no other team has been found able to faithfully copy.

There has also been Wanderers' amazing success, home and away, against over-sons teams, and this is a happy augury for next season when, as champions, Wolverhampton take over from Manchester United in the European Cup competition.

In addition to Wright, his Wolves will probably supply Eddie Clamp, Gerry Harris, and maybe Peter Broadbent and Jimmy Murray—the "Dover Twins"—to the English World Cup party. I can recall a shrewd prophecy made by Mr Cullis after the last World Cup series in Switzerland four years ago. He said: "Billy Wright will still be captaining his country in Sweden in four years' time."

Mr Cullis will, however, have two problems to face in the very near future. The retirement of veteran left winger Jimmy Muller cannot be very long delayed, while his close friend Billy Wright cannot go on for ever. Mr Cullis has made provision for the first eventually by buying Scottish International Jackie Hendrie from Portsmouth. Wright's successor is expected to be Gerry Showell, but it could be Eddie Clamp.

Wright is expected to become England's team manager if and when Mr Walter Winterbottom succeeds Sir Stanley Rous as FA Secretary.

WATER POLO

A team from HMNZS Royalist will play the Hongkong Asian Games water polo team at the Navy pool, R.M. Dockyard, at 6 p.m. today. Entry to the dockyard is by the West Gate.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



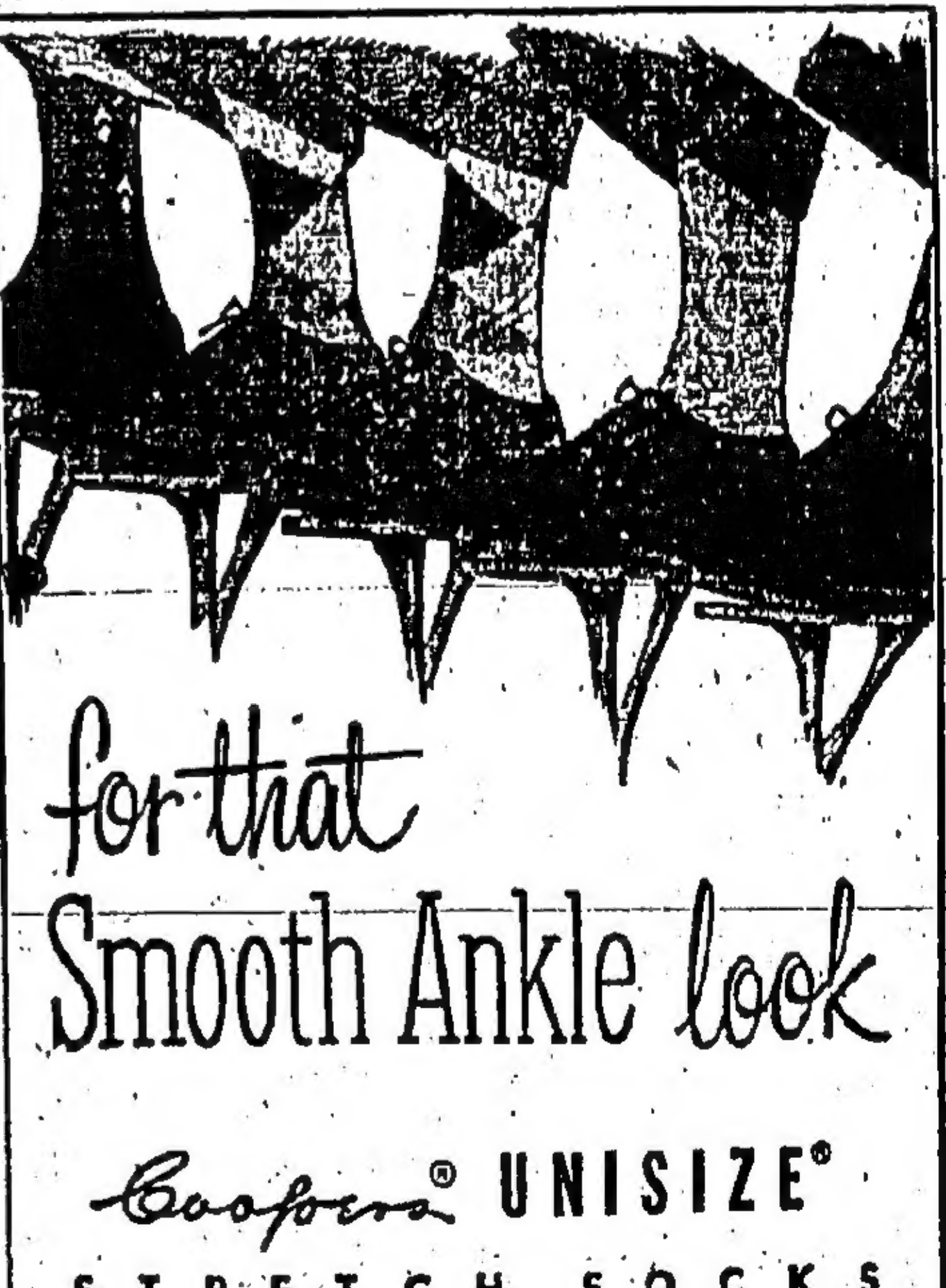
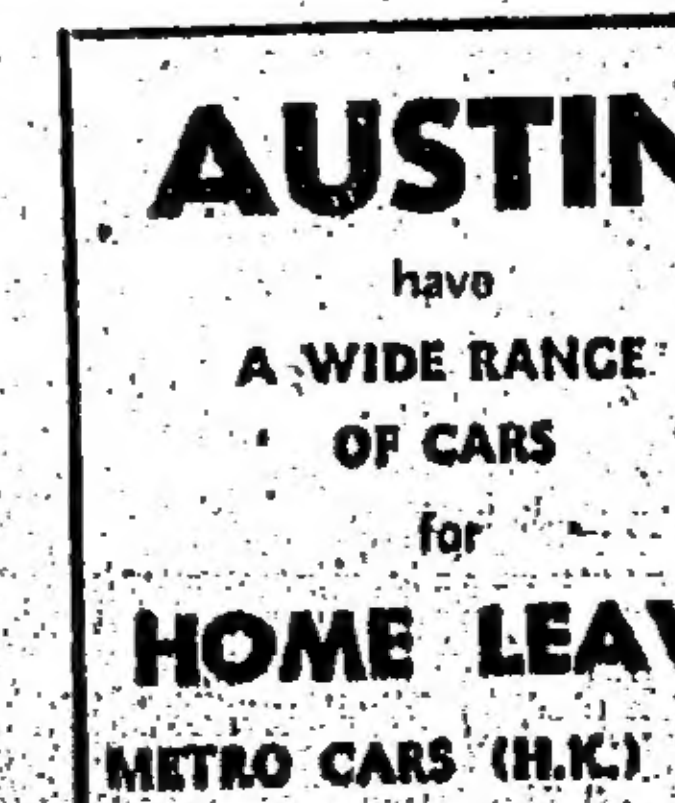
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CHINA MAIL

Page 10

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1958.

SHEAFFER'S
Skrip

BIG SWISS EXPORTS TO CHINA

Geneva, Apr. 11. Switzerland is exporting more strategic related goods to China than the Soviet bloc can obtain from any other Western nation.

The latest official export figures show that China bought 2.16½ million worth of goods last year, ranging from precision chronometers, precision instruments and watches.

China, therefore, became Switzerland's second largest customer after the United States.

Astronomical instruments are in great demand in China.

In return, Switzerland imported only 2.42 million worth of goods.

Yesterday, the United States blacklisted a Swiss firm at Zurich—Oleina and Co.—for exporting pharmaceutical products bought in the United States.

London Express Service.

POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



"But, Willy darling, I don't see how they're to know that we're non-residents."

COMMISSIONS RESIGNED

Major L. Goldmann of the Reserve of Officers and Pilot Officer M. W. Ramsey of the HKAAP of the Royal Hong Kong Defence Force, have been permitted by the Governor to resign their commissions, according to the Government Gazette today. Their resignations became effective on April 2 and March 23 respectively.

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broadcloth
blouse...
leaf-collar



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MANCHESTER GUARDIAN OPTIMISTIC ABOUT COTTON TALKS

Manchester, Apr. 11. The Manchester Guardian today expressed some optimism about the possible results of the recent visit to the Far East of Sir Frank Lee, the Permanent Secretary at the Board of Trade, concerning cotton exports to Britain.

Sir Frank returned to London yesterday.

After his mission to Hongkong, India and Pakistan, he will tell the Cotton Board how he has fared, the Manchester Guardian said.

"Though he has not brought back with him the cut and dried agreement with Hongkong for which a few people here were hoping, it seems probable that his visit has been well worthwhile."

"The Hongkong manufacturers as might have been expected were not willing to restrict unconditionally the flood of very cheap goods which is so damaging the foundations of the Lancashire industry."

Willing

"But they were apparently willing to consider some limiting agreement if the Indian and Pakistani industries would join in it," this Liberal daily pointed out.

"Sir Frank has seen them too and there is some ground for hope that they will come in."

"It would be foolish to think that any agreement remotely in prospect could release the Lancashire mills from all their troubles and anxieties."

"But it will be something if they can look for some check to the rising flood which threatens to erode away the ground they stand on and overwhelm even the most courageous and well conceived efforts to meet it with increased efficiency and keener selling."

Some Surprise

"It may cause some surprise that the Commonwealth exporters should be willing even to consider putting on the brakes when things are going so much their way. But they may see it as prudent unless their own position deteriorates and drives them into still greater efforts to expand."

"It might be to their ultimate advantage not to risk their position by pushing the British Government into reluctant intervention. This has been so far and quite properly rejected."

"But the fact that the Government has been willing to send no less a person than the Permanent Secretary of the Board of Trade as Lancashire's spokesman in the East may suggest to them that some change of heart is taking place and that its commitments to a steady liberalisation of trade—and particularly to eschew restrictions—may not rule out some means of helping the Lancashire industry," the Manchester Guardian commented.

"Nor indeed would the destruction of the Lancashire industry be all gain for these competitors."

"Though its palmy days are gone its great tradition of skill and technical enterprise is still very much alive."

"Spinning and weaving mills of Lancashire are still the place where new fibres and processes are put to the test on the production scale and science has almost certainly new advances in store which can only be tried satisfactorily in an efficient industry running on a fairly broad base."

"Training in technology is still needed by the Commonwealth countries and found here."

Not Sentimental

"These are not sentimental considerations; they are those of foresight and prudence."

"The modest kind of voluntary agreement which Sir Frank has been discussing may be to the advantage of all parties in the long run, not excluding the customers," the Manchester Guardian added.—Reuter.

CHINESE CLUB OFFICIALS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Chinese Club held yesterday, the following officials for 1958/1959 were elected:

Chairman, Mr. Mok Hing-wing; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Tong Man-ling; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Tong Shuk-pui; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Lui Chun-wah; Committee, Mr. Chan Koon-puk, Mr. Yip Chan-yuk, Mr. Ng Wai-fai, Mr. Ko Fook-ku, Mr. Wong Chi-ling, Mr. K. P. Tsui and Mr. Yu Kim-hoo.

SOLDIER SERIOUSLY INJURED

A British soldier, Corporal James Lowe, sustained serious injuries when the private car in which he was travelling ran into a lamp-post in Nathan Road, near Kimberley Road, shortly after 5 o'clock this morning.

Corporal Lowe has been admitted to hospital for treatment.

February Surplus Up

The Government financial statement for February this year reveals that revenue for the month totalled \$50,385,554.53, and expenditure, \$37,917,136.00. The surplus for February, therefore, amounted to \$12,468,417.57.

The same statement which was published in the Government Gazette today, stated that the total revenue from April 1, 1957, to February 28, 1958, stood at \$559,391,175.52, which exceeded the estimate for 1957-58 of \$507,469,000. The general revenue balance as at February 28, totalled \$434,835,417.07.

CHINA PROVIDENT MAKE A RECORD PROFIT

The China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co. Ltd made a record profit of \$2,366,000 in 1957, and at the annual meeting today declared a dividend of \$1 and a bonus of 10 cents per share on the old shares and a dividend and bonus of \$0.1375 per share on the new shares.

Addressing the meeting, the Chairman, Major S. M. Churn, said:

Sixty years ago, on February 10, 1908, this Company was incorporated. The first published balance sheet shows assets of \$522,000, and the profit for that year of \$24,738.

The accounts and Directors' report for 1957, which, with your permission, I will take as read, show assets at book value of nearly \$26 million and a profit for the year of \$2,366,000. This profit figure is again a record for the Company, and a suitable tribute to the first 50 years of business.

As you are aware, we now own over 98 per cent of the capital of our subsidiary, North Point Wharves, Ltd, and it is of interest to note that the combined profit of both companies, excluding dividends and the share of profit, applicable to the minority interest, was \$3,109,588.

Our subsidiaries again operated profitably, and while the Sandaling Company was unable to make any cash distribution due to its requirements for capital outlay, our bankers were agreeable this year to relax the restriction on North Point Wharves, and the dividend was increased from 50 cents to 75 cents per share.

Full Capacity

The year under review was a successful year, and we were able to take advantage of most of the opportunities offering.

The godowns and harbour and land transport work were full capacity, and the cold store returned a satisfactory profit. Storage rates were well maintained and turnover was better, resulting in an increased storage income of over 50 per cent.

In handling the quantity of cargo we do, some small damage cannot be avoided. In 1957 we settled these small claims for a total of \$1,140.

I have again to thank the shareholders for their confidence in the excellent and conscientious service from the staff both ashore and afloat, which contributes so much to the Company's continued success.

The Board feel that we are now reaping the benefit of the long years of preparation and the conservative and progressive policy of the post-war years.

The new issue of one new share for every old was very well received by the shareholders. The funds so raised have already been well employed in enlarging our fleet of steel lighters, replacing tracks and financing the construction of 30,000-ton capacity godown at North Point, which will come into operation in this month.

Variation

From the appropriations account you will note that the balance brought forward from 1956 has been added the profit realised on the sale of motor vehicles, premium on shares and the profit for 1957, totalling \$4,395,057. After making the usual transfers to reserves, writing off new issue expenses and providing for taxation, your Directors recommend that \$310,870 be transferred to capital reserve and \$707,225 be transferred to general reserve, bringing these reserves up to \$3½ million and \$3 million respectively; the usual bonus be paid to the Staff, a dividend of \$1 and a bonus of 10 cents per share, be declared on the old shares and pro rata thereon on the new shares, and \$1,920,081 carried forward to next account.

Turning to the balance sheet, the variation in fixed assets due to the completion of Godown No. 53 in January, 1957, and new motor vehicles and lighters purchased during the year.

The market value of shares in our subsidiaries appreciated by \$527,000 in the past year. This amount has been transferred to the investment fluctuation reserve.

The provision for possible losses from typhoons, marine accidents and depreciation of investments now aggregate \$3½ million. Appropriations to the sinking funds have been made in full.

All taxation for the year of assessment 1957/8 has been paid; the provision for 1958/9 is adequate.

Staff provident funds now stand at \$783,000.

We again publish as an annex to our accounts—a statement of this Company's balance sheet combined with that of its subsidiary, North Point Wharves, Ltd, which we trust you will find of interest.

During the year under review Mr. A. Klusman resigned from the Board on leaving the Colony, Major Churn continued.

Protest

Mr. J. Hennessy Seth (representing Pilots Investments, Ltd) said: "As representative of the holder of a very few shares, I rise to protest against the payment to members of the Board of \$65,100 underwriting commission on the new issue. This payment does not appear as a separate item in the published statement of accounts, and I am not criticising its treatment, but I do criticise the payment."

"It is within the knowledge of the Board that the company issued new capital amounting to \$9,200,000 a few months earlier, without its Board considering it necessary to enter into an underwriting agreement, and it cannot be contended that there was any material change in financial conditions in Hongkong between April and August last year."

"At a press interview relating to the new issue, you were reported to have said that 'ample funds were available from the company's bankers', but indicated the Board preferred to raise new capital to finance capital expenditure."

"I submit, Sir, payment to members of the Board of \$65,100 was an unnecessary expense, and having regard to your statement that funds were available from bankers, it would seem there was no danger of expansion being held up for want of funds. Had the issue not been fully subscribed, recourse could be had to our bankers."

Chairman's Reply

The Chairman replied that it had been necessary for the Board to underwrite the new issue to ensure its success. As a result, the Company was able to plan expansion three months ahead. Six lighters had been completed and the new godown would be ready by the end of this month, and other expansion work was going well.

The Chairman said their Company's issue was a premium issue of \$5 whereas that of the other company referred to by Mr. Seth was at par.

Present members of the Stock Exchange had also given their opinion that the new issue might have been received unfavourably unless the Board underwrote it, the Chairman said. Moreover, the bank did not like to give long-term loans for capital expenditure.

The Chairman then proposed that the Directors' report, accounts and balance sheet for the year ended December 31, 1957, as presented, be adopted, and that the balance available for appropriation, \$3,032,367, be dealt with as recommended by the Directors, namely:

To pay a dividend of \$1 per share and a bonus of 10 cents per share on the old shares absorbing \$1,430,002; pay a dividend and bonus on the new shares at \$0.1375 per share \$44,750; pay bonus to the staff at the discretion of the Directors \$238,028; carry forward to next account \$1,920,081.

Great Satisfaction

Seconding the Chairman's proposal, Mr. C. E. Peacock said: The results achieved must be a source of great satisfaction to the Board and to the shareholders, and reflect the conservative yet progressive policy pursued by the Company in the past years.

I have long been interested in the progress of North Point Wharves, Ltd. Despite the early troubles over requisitioning for the Military, it has always operated profitably, and I take it as a sign of confidence that our bankers have eased the restriction on the dividend distribution this year.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I never can figure out where they are—late breakfast, coffee break, or early lunch!"

Court Turns Down Murderer's Appeal

The Full Court this morning dismissed an appeal against conviction by Leung Kwai-wing, 44-year-old textile worker, who was found guilty of the murder of his alleged mistress and sentenced to death on March 3 at the Criminal Sessions.

The body of the woman Ho Ah-kwan, was found on a seashore at Tsun Wan on November 25 last year. The Crown's case was that Leung attacked her with a chopper and then pushed her into the sea.

The Full Court comprised the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice T. J. Gould, and the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr. Justice C. W. Reece.

Mr. Terence Shurlock, instructed by Messrs Deacon, represented the appellant. Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, appeared for the Crown.

Framed Grounds

Mr. Shurlock told the Court that the appellant himself had framed the grounds of appeal, which were: (1) that he had been falsely accused and (2) that he was wrongly convicted.

But having perused the records carefully, and having consulted his colleagues, Mr. Shurlock said, he had come to the conclusion that there was no point in putting any argument before the Full Court in support of the appeal.

Mr. Shurlock pointed out, however, that the jury had made a recommendation for mercy. In the circumstances, he said, he proposed on appellant's behalf to ask the Court to pass the recommendation on to the Governor so that His Excellency could exercise his prerogative in the circumstances on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen.

Giving the Court's decision, Mr. Justice Gould said the Court had studied the evidence, the summing-up and the record of the trial, and could find no defect in them.

The appellant, the Judge continued, had been convicted on the clearest possible evidence.

I was also interested in the remark from the Chair that the combined profit earned by this Company and North Point Wharves, Ltd.

dividends, was over three million dollars. In a few more years, when the overdraft is liquidated and all restrictions on dividends lifted, we shall, as the Chairman puts it, "reap the benefit of the long years of preparation" even more than we are today.

Major S. M. Churn and Mr. N. V. A. Croucher were re-elected Directors (proposed by R. B. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Lam King-tak). Messrs Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co. were re-appointed auditors at a fee of \$7,500 (proposed by Mr. E. J. M. Churn, seconded by Mr. Tung Hung-tim).

BOY MISSING

Information Wanted

A five-year-old Chinese boy, Chan Fuk-yu, also known as "Bee Chai", left his home in the Shamshuipo district on the afternoon of October 31 last and has not been seen since. The boy is about three feet



Chan Fuk-yu

tall and speaks both the Punti and Teochan dialects.

The police are appealing to the public for information as to the whereabouts of the child. Any person having such information is asked to contact the Divisional Detective Inspector, Shamshuipo Police Station (Telephone No. 58121, Extension 562) or make a report at any police station.

Naturalisation Granted

The Government Gazette today announced that the following have been granted certificates of naturalisation:

Mr. Ke Kai-fan, tailor, 205 Lockhart Road, ground floor; Miss Myin-sien Sung, known as Lily Sung, nurse; Mailda Hospital; Mrs. Eva Gottfried nee Czerny, 48B Kadoorie Avenue, 1D Hillview Apartment; Mr. Wong Tsang-mow, merchant, 517 Prince Edward Road; Mr. George Lee, known as Leo Soon-mow, known as Leo Chu-hui, known as Lee Tung-fong, merchant, 15 King Wah Road, ground floor; Mr. Bao Ming-shao, merchant, 8 Stafford Road; Mr. Yee Ching-ling, steward, 374 South Bay Road; Mr. Eric Benda, mercantile assistant, 10 Observatory Court, 1st floor; Mr. Tang Ho-yun, known as Francis Tang Ho-yun, health inspector, 37 Homanth Street, 4th floor.

Rehearsal

Units of the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Hong Kong Defence Force took part in a rehearsal for the forthcoming Queen's Birthday Parade in Gascoigne Road this morning.

His Excellency the Governor and the Service Commanders were represented at the saluting base by their aides-de-camp.

MORE LOCAL NEWS ON PAGE 8

Joan's Happy Wishes

I love to dance better than anything. And next best I'd love my new dance shoes. So please bring me a pair of Caspades on my birthday. They're what the dance-dealers wear, you know.

Joan

The Happiest Gift

PS. If you'll bring me a GIFT VOUCHER from Mode Elite, I'll pick up my own dance shoes.

MODE ELITE

Kayamally Bldg. 22, Queen's Rd. C. Tel. 2402 HONGKONG.

Ocean View Court, 27, Chatham Rd. Tel. 6748 KOWLOON.